

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The conferees agree to provide \$330,071,000, instead of \$67,800,000 as proposed by the House and \$210,071,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees agree to rescind \$120,000,000 from Public Law 109-148 and provide the same amount in this chapter to be used for the same purpose and projects as those identified in the conference report accompanying Public Law 109-148. Funds are provided as follows:

Location	Project description	Request	Conference agreement
LA: Hammond	Army Aviation Support Facility	67,800,000	67,800,000
LA: Jackson Barracks	Joint Forces HQs/USPFO	84,200,000	84,200,000
LA: Jackson Barracks	Readiness Center	51,600,000	51,600,000
Worldwide: Unspecified	Planning and Design	6,471,000	6,471,000
Worldwide: Various Locations	Projects provided in P.L. 109-148		120,000,000
Total		210,071,000	330,071,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The conferees agree to provide \$5,800,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate. Funds are provided as follows:

Location	Project description	Request	Conference agreement
MS: CRTC Gulfport	Upgrade Storm Water System	600,000	600,000
MS: Key Field	Replace Medical Training Facility	4,700,000	4,700,000
Worldwide: Unspecified	Planning and Design	500,000	500,000
Total		5,800,000	5,800,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The conferees agree to provide \$24,270,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate. The conferees also agree to rescind \$49,530,000 from Public Law 109-148 as proposed by both the House and the Senate. Funds are provided as follows:

Location	Project description	Request	Conference agreement
LA: NAS/IRB New Orleans	Command and Control Center	3,610,000	3,610,000
LA: NAS/IRB New Orleans	Crash/Fire/Rescue Station	7,360,000	7,360,000
LA: NAS/IRB New Orleans	Public Works Complex	12,600,000	12,600,000
Worldwide: Unspecified	Planning and Design	700,000	700,000
Total		24,270,000	24,270,000

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION
CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

The conferees agree to provide \$585,919,000 for Construction, Major Projects, instead of \$550,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$623,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees agree that the funding provided includes \$550,000,000 for construction of a medical facility in New Orleans, Louisiana. In addition, \$35,919,000 is provided for debris removal and environmental clean-up of the former Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Gulfport, Mississippi, and for any authorized purpose within this account.

In a report issued to Congress on February 28, 2006, the Department of Veterans Affairs identified its preference to rebuild the medical center in New Orleans as a "shared facility" with its academic partners. The conferees are supportive of this effort and encourage the Department to continue to work with its affiliates to develop the shared facility concept. However, the conferees caution the Department not to enter into any agreement in which it pays for more than its share in the name of collaboration.

RELATED AGENCY

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME

The conferees agree to provide \$176,000,000 for construction of a new facility in Gulfport, Mississippi, as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained no similar provision. The conferees note that cost estimates provided in a report to Congress on February 28, 2006, included significant expenses which should not be incurred for construction of a facility of this type and have adjusted the funding accordingly. The conferees have also included a general provision which consolidates \$64,700,000 of previously appropriated funding which is to be used for this construction project. The conferees believe that the total funding available is sufficient to build a new replacement facility, fully compliant with all relevant laws, regulations, and

standards for a retirement domicile, on the existing site in Gulfport, Mississippi.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS CHAPTER

(INCLUDING RESCISSION AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conferees agree to include a provision (Sec. 2701), as proposed by the Senate, to waive a Federal funding limit on Guard and Reserve military construction projects appropriated in this chapter. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conferees agree to include a provision (Sec. 2702), as proposed by the Senate, which allows funds previously appropriated for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Services account, to be transferred to other accounts upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress. The provision also extends the availability of the funds beyond the current fiscal year. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conferees agree to include a provision (Sec. 2703), as proposed by the Senate, which directs the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs to clean up and transfer property in Gulfport, Mississippi, to the city of Gulfport, Mississippi. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conferees have not included a provision, as proposed by the Senate, which would authorize site acquisition and construction of medical facilities in New Orleans, Louisiana, and Biloxi, Mississippi. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conferees agree to include a provision (Sec. 2704) which consolidates unobligated balances of the Armed Forces Retirement Home, to be used for the planning, design, and construction of a new facility in Gulfport, Mississippi, as proposed by the Senate. The conferees have modified the Senate proviso to this provision which designates the General Services Administration, in consultation with the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and the Armed Forces Retirement Home, as the agent for all matters

with regard to planning, design, construction, and contract administration. The House bill contained no similar provision.

CHAPTER 8

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

The conference agreement provides \$2,000,000 for General Legal Activities, as proposed by the House instead of \$3,200,000 as proposed by the Senate. Funding is provided for the Criminal Division and Civil Division for expenses to investigate and prosecute fraud cases related to hurricanes in the Gulf Coast region.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

The conference agreement provides \$6,500,000 for United States Attorneys as proposed by the Senate instead of \$5,000,000 as proposed by the House. Funding is provided for expenses to investigate and prosecute fraud cases related to hurricanes in the Gulf Coast region.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

The conference agreement provides \$118,000,000 under this heading, instead of no funding as proposed by the House and \$1,135,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. In addition to the amount provided under this heading, language is included in chapter one of this title to transfer \$38,000,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture to NOAA for reseeded, rehabilitation and restoration of oyster reefs.

The conferees remain concerned about the ongoing recovery efforts in the Gulf of Mexico and the previous lack of attention given to the critical need for mapping the Gulf waters for debris removal. In the wake of the